

INFORMATION FOR VOTERS

TOWN OF DUNSTABLE



SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION NOVEMBER 30, 2023 INFORMATIONAL BOOKLET

**Published by the
Dunstable Town Administrator Jason Silva**

Town of Dunstable (MA)
2023 Special Town Election
Voting Information

- **Special Town Election**

- Dunstable is holding a Special Town Election on **Thursday, November 30, 2023**
- **Polls will be open from 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM**
- Polling Location:
 - *Dunstable Public Library, 588 Main Street, Dunstable*

- **Purpose of the Special Town Election**

- To Vote on a Proposition 2 ½ Debt Exclusion Question

- **Vote by Mail Ballots & Absentee Ballots**

- Vote by Mail ballots are available for the Special Election.
- The last day and hour to request a **ballot by mail** is Wednesday, November 22 at 5 PM
- Vote by Mail Ballots **must be received** by the Clerk's office by the close of polls (8:00 PM) on Thursday, November 30, 2023. Ballots can be dropped off through the mail slot in the side door at Town Hall or hand delivered to the Clerk's Office.
- Please allow time for mailing or be prepared to vote at the Polls on Election Day.

- **In-Person Early Voting**

- In-Person Early Voting is available for the Special Election at the Town Clerk's Office at Town Hall
- The Hours as are follows:
 - Saturday, November 18 - 9am-12pm
 - Monday, November 20 - 9am-4pm
 - Tuesday, November 21 - 9am-4pm
 - Wednesday, November 22 - 8am-12pm

- **Election and Voter information**

- If you would like to check on your voter registration, polling location or have another voting related question, please contact the Town Clerk's office
 - Office: 978-649-4514 ext. 222
 - Email: townclerk@Dunstable-ma.gov
 - Web: <https://www.dunstable-ma.gov/town-clerk/pages/elections-voting-information>

**BALLOT QUESTION INFORMATION
FOR NOVEMBER 30, 2023
SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION**

Ballot Question #1:

Shall the Town of Dunstable be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to pay for the financing, planning, designing, permitting, and constructing of water infrastructure improvements in order to bring potable drinking water to the Groton Dunstable Regional High School and private homes, required due to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination in ground water supply sources, and all other costs incidental and related thereto?

YES _____ NO _____

Summary of Question #1:

The 2023 Special Town Meeting approved the Town to appropriate \$3,481,260 in order to pay for the financing, planning, designing, permitting, and constructing of water infrastructure improvements in order to bring potable drinking water to the Groton Dunstable Regional High School and private homes, required due to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination in ground water supply sources, and all other costs incidental and related thereto; and that to meet this appropriation, the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, §8(5) or pursuant to any other enabling authority; provided, however, that this borrowing authorization shall be contingent upon passage of a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion referendum to assess additional real estate and personal property taxes under Chapter 59, Section 21C (i ½), of the Massachusetts General Laws.

This is necessary because the water supply at the Groton Dunstable Regional High School and surrounding residential properties in Dunstable on Kemp Street and Groton Street contain levels of per- and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) substances that exceed MassDEP regulations. To address this issue, a new water source for the High School and surrounding properties is necessary.

A Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion referendum authorizes the Town to temporarily increase the tax levy, which expires once the Town has paid off the project's debt.

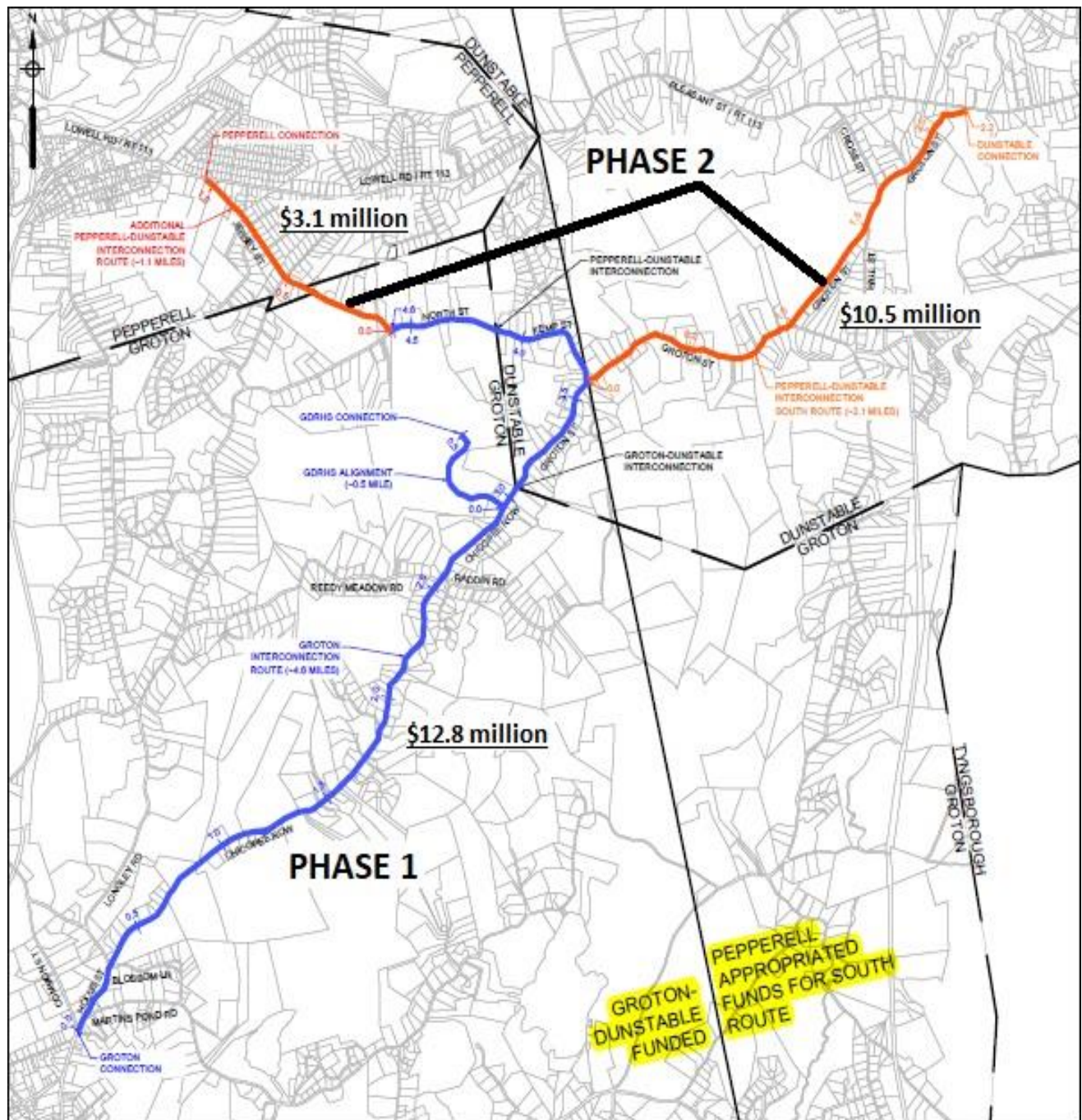
Description of the Proposed Project

The portion of the project funded by the Towns of Dunstable and Groton, subject to the Special Town Election vote, includes construction of the following:

- A new 12-Inch water main in Chicopee Row 2.6 miles from Hollis Street to Reedy Meadow Road in the Town of Groton,
- Followed by a new 8-inch water main to the Groton Dunstable Regional High School and via Groton Street to Kemp Street in Dunstable,

- Continuing in Kemp Street as a 12-inch water main to the Dunstable-Groton town line, and in Groton via North Street to East Street in Pepperell, and
- Then a new 12-inch water main to replace the 8-inch water main in Jersey Street in Pepperell from East Street near the Pepperell-Groton town line to Route 113.

The Town of Pepperell intends to fund the southern portion of the project, constructing a water main from Groton Street and Kemp Street in Dunstable to Route 113 in Dunstable.



EFFECT OF A YES OR NO VOTE:

A YES VOTE will allow the Town to borrow funds necessary to design, engineer, and construct a water main to provide potable drinking water to the Groton Dunstable Regional High School (GDRHS) and surrounding affected homes.

A NO VOTE will not allow the Town to borrow funds necessary to design, engineer, and construct a water main to provide potable drinking water to the Groton Dunstable Regional High School (GDRHS) and surrounding affected homes.